

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the Specification as follows.

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, lines 1-15, with the following amended paragraph.

In practice, both the cross-connection part and the control part are often disposed on several plug-in units (not shown in the figure). Thus, the invention allows a situation where the cross-connection part unit computer C_k - C_r in question and the nearest terminal point of the cross-connection used are disposed on different plug-in units. In Fig. 4 presents an example in which the terminal points of a cross-connection being used are indicated by "X", the nearest terminal point being naturally that terminal point which is closer to the said cross-connection part unit computer C_r . In a preferred case, the message traffic of all the unit computers C_r of the cross-connection part 11 is transmitted in the manner described above, although this is not absolutely necessary.